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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/870,910	05/31/2001	Ichiko Mayuzumi	1232-4720	7763

27123 7590 02/09/2005

MORGAN & FINNEGAN, L.L.P.
3 WORLD FINANCIAL CENTER
NEW YORK, NY 10281-2101

EXAMINER	
FLANDERS, ANDREW C	

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
2644	

DATE MAILED: 02/09/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	09/870,910	MAYUZUMI, ICHIKO	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Andrew C Flanders	2644	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1)☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on *31 May 2001*.

2a)☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b)☒ This action is non-final.

3)☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4)☒ Claim(s) *1-29* is/are pending in the application.

4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6)☒ Claim(s) *1-29* is/are rejected.

7)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8)☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9)☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10)☒ The drawing(s) filed on *31 May 2001* is/are: a)☒ accepted or b)☐ objected to by the Examiner.

Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11)☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12)☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

a)☒ All b)☐ Some * c)☐ None of:

1.☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

2.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.

3.☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08) Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.
4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

> A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –
>
> (e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

2. Claims 1, 7, 8, 10, 12 – 20, 23 – 25, 28 and 29 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Fuchigami (U.S. Patent 6,463,410).

3. Regarding Claim 1, Fuchigami discloses receiving a 2 channel right and left audio signal (col. 7 lines 21 – 22), an addition circuit to add the left channel signal to the right channel signal and a subtraction circuit to subtract the right channel from the left channel (col. 7 lines 60 – 68 and col. 8 lines 1 – 3), the results are then sent to an encoder (Fig. 1) (i.e. transmission means for transmitting data obtained by addition of the two audio signals as first audio data through a first communication channel, and transmitting data obtained by subtraction of the two audio signals as second audio data through a second communication channel), a depacketing processor for receieving packets transmitted through a network from the encoding apparatus (addition and subtraction circuit) (fig. 12) reception means for receiving the data obtained by the addition of the two audio signals as the first audio data and the data obtained by the subtraction of the two audio signals as the second audio data) and a decoding

processor for restoring the L and R channel data (Fig. 12 element 200 and fig. 1 element 200) (i.e. restoring means for restoring the audio signal by performing an arithmetic operation on the basis of the audio data received by said reception means).

4. Regarding Claims 7, 12, 15 and 28, Fuchigami discloses receiving a 2 channel right and left audio signal (col. 7 lines 21 – 22), an addition circuit to add the left channel signal to the right channel signal and a subtraction circuit to subtract the right channel from the left channel (col. 7 lines 60 – 68 and col. 8 lines 1 – 3 and Figs 1 and 12), the results are then sent to an packeting processor (Fig. 12 element 350) (i.e. first generation means for generating packet data by addition of two audio signals of L and R channels and second generation means for generating packet data obtained by subtraction of the two audio signals) and the signals are sent via communication links (fig. 1) (i.e. transmission means for transmitting the packet data generated by said first generation means through a first communication channel, and transmitting the packet data generated by said second generation means through a second communication channel).

5. Regarding Claims 8, 13 and 16, Fuchigami discloses a decoder which receives the information sent over the network (Fig. 1 and 12) (i.e. reception menas for receiving packet data obtained by addition of two audio signals of L and R channels and/or packet data obtained by subtraction of the two audio signals) and a decoding processor for restoring the L and R channel data (Fig. 12 element 200 and fig. 1 element 200) (i.e. restoring means for restoring the audio signal by performing an arithmetic operation on the basis of the packet data received by said reception means).

6. Regarding Claims 10, 14, 17, 18, 19, 23, 24, 25 and 29, Fuchigami discloses receiving a 2 channel right and left audio signal (col. 7 lines 21 – 22), an addition circuit to add the left channel signal to the right channel signal and a subtraction circuit to subtract the right channel from the left channel (col. 7 lines 60 – 68 and col. 8 lines 1 – 3 and Figs 1 and 12), the results are then sent to an packeting processor (Fig. 12 element 350) and the signals are sent via communication links (fig. 1) (i.e. transmission means for transmitting packet data obtained by addition of two audio signals of L and R channels through a first communication channel, and transmitting packet data obtained by subtraction of the two audio signals through a second communication channel), a decoder which receives the information sent over the network (Fig. 1 and 12) (i.e. reception means for receiving the packet data obtained by the addition of the two audio signals of the L and R channels and/or the packet data obtained by the subtraction of the two audio signals) and a decoding processor for restoring the L and R channel data (Fig. 12 element 200 and fig. 1 element 200) (i.e. restoring means for restoring the audio signal by performing an arithmetic operation on the basis of the packet data received by said reception means).

7. Regarding Claim 20, in addition to the elements stated above regarding claim 19, Fuchigami discloses receiving a 2 channel right and left audio signal (col. 7 lines 21 – 22), an addition circuit to add the left channel signal to the right channel signal and a subtraction circuit to subtract the right channel from the left channel (col. 7 lines 60 – 68 and col. 8 lines 1 – 3), the results are then sent to an encoder via a communication link (Fig. 1) (i.e. wherein said transmission means transmits the first audio data through a

first communication channel and the second audio data through a econd communication channel).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

8. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

> (a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negatived by the manner in which the invention was made.

9. Claims 2, 6, 9, 11, 21, 22, 26 and 27 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Fuchigami (U.S. Patent 6,463, 410).

10. Regarding Claim 2, in addition to the elements stated above regarding claim 1, Fuchigami discloses an L+R and L-R signal (fig. 1). Applicant defines an L+R signal as a monaural signal and an L-R signal as capable of providing a stereo signal in the specification on page 25 (i.e. the first audio data represents monaural audio and the second audio data represents stereo audio). It is obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art that a monaural signal only contains one channel (i.e. left or right). Applying a single signal to left channel the system will cause it to only transmit monaural, if both the left and right channels are present, a stereo channel will be transmitted (i.e. the transmission means transmits according to whether an audio source of said transmission apparatus is the stereo audio or the monaural audio, a change of the audio source to said reception apparatus). Fuchigami further discloses an addition and subtraction of the L and R signals within the decoding processor to restore the original L

and R signals, or only the L if a monaural signal is present (fig. 1 elements 200) (i.e. said restoring means of said reception apparatus restores the audio signal on the basis of the first audio data obtained by the addition of the two audio signals and the second audio data obtained by the subtraction of the two audio signals when the audio source of said transmission apparatus is the stereo audio, and restores the audio signal on the basis of only the first audio data obtained by the addition of the two audio signals when the audio source of said transmission apparatus is the monaural audio).

11. Regarding Claims 6, 21 and 26, in addition to the elements stated above regarding claims 1, 19 and 24, Fuchigami further discloses that the network transmits the two inputs, L and R (Fig. 12). It is obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art that a monaural signal only contains one channel (i.e. left or right). Applying a single signal to left channel the system will cause it to only transmit monaural, if both the left and right channels are present, a stereo channel will be transmitted (i.e. said transmission means of said transmission apparatus adjust the number of channels to be used for the transmission, according to the kind of audio source of said apparatus) and the monaural or stereo signal is transmitted over a network (fig. 12) (i.e. said reception means of said reception apparatus adjusts the number of channels to be used for the reception according to the number of channels to be used for the transmission).

12. Regarding Claims 9 and 11, in addition to the elements stated above regarding Claims 8 and 10, Fuchigami further discloses an addition and subtraction of the L and R signals within the decoding processor to restore the original L and R signals, or only the L if a monaural signal is present (fig. 1 elements 200) (i.e. said restoring means restores

a stereo audio signal on the basis of the packet data obtained by the addition of the two audio signals and the packet data obtained by the subtraction of the two audio signals when the stereo audio is restored, and restores a monaural audio signal on the basis of only the packet data obtained by the addition of the two audio signals when monaural audio is restored).

13. Regarding Claims 22 and 27, in addition to the elements stated above regarding claims 19 and 24, Fuchigami further discloses a network for transferring data (Fig. 12 element 360). It is obvious to one of ordinary skill to use a network to transfer any form of data, be it audio, video, images, text or other various files (i.e. image data communication means for transmitting and receiving image data).

14. Claims 3 – 5 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Fuchigami (U.S. Patent 6,463, 410) in view of Upadrasta (U.S. Patent 6,771,594).

15. Regarding Claim 3, in addition to the elements stated above regarding claim 1, Fuchigami further discloses that the network transmits the two inputs, L and R (Fig. 12) (i.e. transmission means transmits the number of audio channels of said transmission apparatus to said reception apparatus). Fuchigami does not disclose describing it as a source description of an RTCP packet. Upadrasta discloses a reliable voice transmission network that utilizes RTCP to send packets that contain header information in addition to the actual data (col. 3 lines 13 – 20) (i.e. describing it as a source description of an RTCP packet). One of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention would have been motivated to use Upadrasta's RTCP on Fuchigami's network in order for reliable network transmission. Upardrasta discloses RTCP is well known in

the art and one would be motivated to use it over TCP if voice and A/V data are to be transmitted over a network (col. 1).

16. Regarding claim 4, in addition to the elements stated above regarding claim 1, Fuchigami further discloses that the network transmits the two inputs, L and R (Fig. 12) (i.e. transmission means transmits a type of audio input device of said transmission apparatus to said reception apparatus). Fuchigami does not disclose describing it as a source description of an RTCP packet. Upadrasta discloses a reliable voice transmission network that utilizes RTCP to send packets that contain header information in addition to the actual data (col. 3 lines 13 – 20) (i.e. describing it as a source description of an RTCP packet). Motivation is given to combine these elements above regarding claim 3.

17. Regarding Claim 5, in addition to the elements stated above regarding claim 1, Upadrasta discloses after a connection is established the H.245 layer intervenes to perform capability exchange and negotiation (col. 3 lines 60 – 62) (i.e. wherein each of said transmission apparatus and said reception apparatus has notification means for notifiying its own capability by using a mode request message according to the H.245 Standard of ITU-T). Motivation is given to combine these elements above regarding claim 3.

Conclusion

The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. Taira (U.S. Patent 6,535, 608), Tanaka (U.S. Patent 6,757,659),

Gundry (U.S. Patent 6,760,448) and Maejima (U.S. Patent Application Publication 2001/0014160).

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Andrew C Flanders whose telephone number is (703) 305-0381. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 8:30 - 5:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Sinh Tran can be reached on (703) 305-4040. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

SINH TRAN
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER

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